

Overseas Press Club Bulletin

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Spanish Crusader At June 9 Shop Talk

One of the world's leading crusading editors will visit the OPC on Monday, June 9, to discuss the fight for a free press in post-Franco Spain and that strategic, separatist-racked nation's chances for preserving democracy.

He is Juan Cebrian, who at 35 has accomplished the remarkable feat in only 4 years of creating a world-famous newspaper, *El Pais* of Madrid. His June 9 appearance will be at a Shop Talk session from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the Bogert Room, 2nd floor.

El Pais, whose first issue appeared in 1976, has won renown for its international reporting, exposes of corruption, leadership in attempting to solve Spain's Basque separatism dispute, and independent reporting of Spain's powerful Roman Catholic Church and its role in modern society. It also has led the campaign to bring Spain into the European Community.

Founded with \$9,000 by a son of the famous philosopher Jose Ortega y Gasset, *El Pais* under Cebrian's editorial leadership has become Spain's largest and most modern paper, with national circulation of 200,000 daily, 350,000 Sunday. Owned in part by its employees, it has a youthful editorial staff — average age 31 — and 14 foreign bureaus, including Moscow, Washington and Tel Aviv. Nearly half its circulation is outside Madrid.

In the newly published book *The World's Great Dailies*, by John Merrill and Harold Fisher, the four-year-old paper was ranked in the top fifty dailies in the world.

During his OPC visit, Cebrian will be presented with the International Editor of the Year award from *World Press Review* (formerly *Atlas*) magazine.

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Iranian Crisis Dominates Talk, Awards at OPC Dinner



Henry Gellermann

Kenneth Taylor

Hodding Carter III

Gellermann Wins A Second Term

Henry Gellermann was declared elected to a second term as president of the Overseas Press Club at a brief and lively but sparsely attended annual meeting at the Club on April 29.

Elected with him as vice presidents were Russ Tornabene, for a second term; Anita Diamant Berke and Arthur Kavalier, succeeding Larry Stessin and Marguerite Cartwright. Jean Baer was elected secretary, succeeding Grace Naismith, and Ben Greenwald was chosen treasurer, succeeding Anita Diamant Berke, who reported that the Club is operating in the black.

These and other results of the balloting, announced by Nat Goldstein, chairman of the election judges, and some remarks by Mr. Gellermann, comprised the brief part of the meeting.

The longer and livelier part consisted of Robert Sheridan's argument that he had been unconstitutionally dealt with in seeking a write-in place on the ballot for president.

Several members sought to persuade Mr. Sheridan that he was wrong according to the constitution, the most persuasive of these being Hal Lehrman, a founder and past president, whose authoritative remarks brought the discussion and the meeting to a close.

"I thought the program was excellent, the evening was delightful and everybody handled things superbly."

That's how Chuck Storer Jr., PI for the New York Stock Exchange, summed up the Club's 41st annual awards dinner, which brought some 500 members and guests to the grand ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria the night of April 29.

From remarks heard around the ballroom during and after the event, that seemed to sum it up for everybody else, too.

But it was more than just a delightful evening. It was an event of special significance, as President Henry Gellermann noted, "as our thoughts go to our fellow Americans in Iran, and as we honor the memory of the eight men who died in the service of their country when they volunteered in an effort to gain the freedom of their comrades."

"It is against this background," he continued, "that tonight assumes special importance in honoring Kenneth Taylor, former Canadian ambassador to Iran, whose humanity and courage have captured the hearts and the gratitude of every American. We share the admiration of the *Manchester Guardian* when it said, 'His imagination and skill make him the 007 of the 20th century.'"

(Continued on page 2)

The Club will be closed on Monday,
May 26, in observance of Memorial
Day.

(Continued from page 1)

With that, Gellermann presented Taylor with the OPC's President's Award for his rescue of six Americans from the beleaguered U.S. Embassy in Teheran.

Gellermann also honored as the other distinguished guest of the evening Hodding Carter III, the U.S. State Department's assistant secretary for public affairs and its spokesperson.

"The Washington press corps," Gellermann said, "and particularly the group covering the State Department, give him high marks for professionalism and candor ... in one of the most sensitive news spots in the nation's capital at a very critical time in our history."

Both Taylor and Carter made brief responses, helping Gellermann make good his promise that the dinner would not inflict long speeches on the audience.

Because the main purpose of the dinner, after all, especially for the nabobs of journalism and broadcasting who attended along with editors, writers, reporters, photographers and producers, was to honor the 43 winners of the coveted OPC awards.

These had been selected by *Gerold Frank*, awards chairman, and a group of 36 judges from among 367 entries, a record number. There were 21 winners of the 15 awards, counting singles and teams. There were 22 winners of citations.

This year's awards included a new category which reflects the OPC's concern for human rights, an award for the best editorial or editorial series "which most effectively lends support to the principle of human rights."

The awards presentation was something of a visual spectacular which had been prepared by *Russ Tornabene* of NBC News with *George E. Burns* doing the script. Giant screens in various ballroom locations made it easy for guests to see photos of winners at work on their assignments in various overseas fields before they came in person to the podium to receive their awards.

The screens also brought to the guests President Carter's news conference that evening at which he presented Senator Ed Muskie as his nominee for Secretary of State to succeed the resigned Cyrus Vance. This caused some speculation among guests as to whether Hodding Carter would follow Vance or remain with his namesake.

Credit for this refinement in OPC awards presentation must go to the Sony Video Products Company. They provided the giant TV screens, the projectors and the technicians.

The award presentations were kept

moving with grace, charm, efficiency and an informed and interesting commentary by *Rolland Smith*, WCBS-TV News anchorman, who served as master of ceremonies.

The presentations over, guests listened and danced to the music of the Canadian Press Club Jazz Band, led by Stewart MacLeod, banjo, and political columnist for the Thomson Newspapers. The band is made up of newspaper men and women who are also accomplished jazz musicians. Eastern Air Lines carried the band to and from the dinner, gratuitously.

A welcome surprise for each guest at the dinner was a copy of *DATELINE 1980*, which includes a section on the awards, with pictures of award and citation winners and description of the winning material.

Due to excellent advance work by *Charles J. Schreiber* and *John Guenther*, the awards and the dinner received unusually good coverage by the press, by all the TV networks, the wire services and the New York and Canadian newspapers.

Dr. Henry A. Singer was chairman of this year's dinner which, in the opinion of many, was "the best ever — give the committee a great big hand."

We do.

HOW THEY RAN IN OPC ELECTION

PRESIDENT

Henry Gellermann	311
Robert Sheridan	5 write-in

SECRETARY

Jean Baer	323
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TREASURER

Ben Greenwald	319
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VICE PRESIDENTS

Russ Tornabene	320
Anita Diamant Berke	312
Arthur Kavalier	301

GOVERNORS (ACTIVE)

1. Henry Cassidy	280
2. Grace Naismith	230
3. Mary Hemingway	203
4. Donald Brydon	182
5. Robert Semple	178
6. George Krinsky	173
7. Barrett Gallagher	172
8. Dwight Sargent	150
9. Henry Singer	126
10. Blythe Foote Finke	113
11. James Hanchett	108
12. Patrick McCurdy	95

GOVERNORS (ASSOCIATE)

1. Charles J. Schreiber	117
2. Rosalind Moore	91
3. George E. Burns	87
4. Norman A. Schorr	69

Votes Cast: Active	337
Associate	191
	528

Letters

GENEVA — News hands from near and far gathered recently at the Chateau de Bellerive along Lake Lemman near here for a bash given by the editors and publishers of the Boston-based *World Paper*, a newly-launched newspaper supplement appearing in publications on six continents. Speaking at the gathering was Mohammed Hasanein Heykal, former chief editor of the Cairo *Al Ahram*, considered by some to be the second most powerful man in Egypt during the 1960's when he was President Nasser's spokesman.

Heykal, whose book *The Road to Ramadan* covers the Egypt side of the 1973 Egypt-Israeli war, is currently working on a book on the Iranian revolution after an extensive fact-finding trip to Iran. He says Iran is in for a long period of turmoil, particularly if Ayatollah Khomeini disappears from the scene.

Attending the gathering from afar were *World Paper* contributors Richard Chesnoff, formerly of *Newsweek's* Paris and Jerusalem bureaus and now freelancing in Manila; Silviu Brucan, editor of Bucharest's *Scinteia*; Hilary Ng'weno, freelance editor in Nairobi; Mary Ellen Ayrton, cultural writer from Sydney, Australia; and others. Among local hands were Ian MacGregor (Radio Suisse), Ann Crosman (NBC), Hans Neuerbourg (AP), Nicholas George, formerly with ABC, and others.

— Michael Sullivan

New Applications

ASSOCIATE NON-RESIDENT

Robert C. Bartlett: President, Commerce Clearing House
Sponsors: Eliot H. Sharp, Harry Rand

New Members

ACTIVE RESIDENT: Philip Hochstein

ACTIVE NON-RESIDENT:

George Esper
Emily Wilkens

ASSOCIATE NON-RESIDENT

Joe Wolhandler

REINSTATEMENT

ACTIVE RESIDENT: Joseph M. Boychuk
Andrew L. Lluberes

ASSOCIATE RESIDENT:

Paul R. Mosher

EAT, DRINK WITH US AT OPC!

Gellermann Program: Pros, Profits

Two years ago, when Henry Gellermann was first elected OPC president, he set his sights on two primary goals: a return to professionalism, and a return to fiscal integrity and solvency.

Now that he has been elected to a second term, his goals, he says, are pretty much the same — only more so.

"At the first board meeting where I presided as president," he recalled, "matters had reached such a serious state that one board member actually suggested that we file for bankruptcy. I told them that I had not run for office to preside over the demise of the club."

A study of the club, he said, showed that it had a reputation as a "social" organization and that its fiscal condition was a mess.

Addressing his remarks to the first problem, Gellermann said that "we have stepped up efforts to bring professional journalists into our ranks." The appointment of journalists to pivotal committee chairmanships, he said, was one tactic. "If we are to have a representative club of journalists, journalists must run it."

He mentioned such persons as Roy Rowan of *Fortune* heading the Freedom of the Press Committee; Irv Taubkin, formerly of the *New York Times*, as editor of the *OPC Bulletin*; Russ Tornabene of NBC News heading the Membership Committee and Larry Stessin of *Business Research Publications* and a *New York Times* contributor continuing as head of "Shop Talk."

Gellermann reported that a membership drive initiated this year has "brought many newspeople back into our ranks. I am especially pleased that several chose to accept the responsibility to run for the Board of Governors this year."

Among those elected were Donald Brydon of UPI, George Krinsky of AP and Robert Semple of the *New York Times*. "The active participation of working newspeople is essential if we are to be a viable journalistic organization."

Focusing on the fiscal problems of the Club, Gellermann said, "We have cleaned up the mess. We are reducing debt by meeting all debt service and are operating in the black. There is only one unfinished matter: that is the return of \$15,000 held in escrow by our former landlords. This is in the hands of counsel and we expect a satisfactory decision shortly."

Looking ahead, Gellermann hastened to point out that rising prices and continued inflation "continue to be a concern. As a result, the membership dues structure is constantly under

review and is interfaced with the economic conditions of the Club.

"The membership must realize that our lease with the Chemists' Club is subject to cost of living increases."

Referring to a story we did two years ago in which Gellermann outlined his plans for an "OPC renewal," we asked him how did he think he was doing?

"I'm about 55 per cent of the way to where I feel we should be. We have made good progress and with the active participation of the new Board of Governors and my committee appointees, I anticipate continued progress."

Going over specific priorities outlined in the 1978 article, Gellermann commented: "I put great emphasis on the Awards Committee, headed by Gerold Frank. I am pleased that this year we had a record number of entries — and the calibre of entries was exceptional."

Gellermann said that his one disappointment was the hope to put the *OPC Bulletin* on a paying basis. "I tried to get Board approval to appoint a member of the Club advertising manager and have him compensated for his work. However, this was contrary to OPC by-laws and the Board would not authorize a change." The *OPC Bulletin* operates at a loss.

Looking back, Gellermann was high in his praise of his Board of Directors "for their energetic and enthusiastic participation — and, yes, debate."

From the brink of bankruptcy, Gellermann feels that his major accomplishments have been "to provide the Club with 1) financial security, 2) a fine roof over our heads, 3) a growing membership and 4) a return of journalists to our ranks."

— Charles Schreiber

Grrr . . . again!

That printshop gremlin was at it again last issue . . . leaving *Jessie Stearns's* by-line off her Washington Ticker. Grrr!

. . . and postscripts

Cecil Brown, one of OPC's former presidents, has been named "Outstanding Professor, Cal Poly, 1980" — which upgrades his previous academic honor as "Distinguished Teacher, 1974" at California State Polytechnic Institute, Pomona.

Sager Pix at OPC

Coming up next in our own OPC Gallery is an exhibition of photographs by Anne Sager, a New Yorker who switched from canvas to camera. Her paintings are represented in the Museum of Modern Art and in private collections. She studied photography with Lisette Model, Phillippe Halsman and George Tice, and has photographed in Europe, South America, Greece, Israel and China. Her photograph of Alfred Eisenstaedt was used for the cover of his book, "People."

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Irvin S. Taubkin, Editor; Helen Alpert, George E. Burns, Blythe Foote Finke, Thomas J. Kraner, Rosalind Moore, Grace Naismith, Charles J. Schreiber, Associates.

Who, What, Where

By GRACE NAISMITH

REELECTED: **Jessie Stearns** for her ninth term on the National Press Building Corporation board of directors and the executive committee.

EXHIBIT: **Fritz Henle**, outstanding photographer from St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, is celebrating "50-year Retrospective" of his work at the Witkin Gallery, 31 East 57 Street, through May. There will be more than 200 photographs taken with his Rollei, many in color, and from all over the world. They are for sale, and Fritz will be in and out of the gallery throughout the month. A rare treat honoring a longtime OPC member.

HONOR: **Ansel E. (Ed) Talbert** has won another award, this time the 1980 Eugene DuBois Memorial Award for "outstanding excellence in aviation reportage." The award honors the late Gene DuBois, Eastern Airlines PR executive who had also been an outstanding journalist. . . **Dr. Gerard H. Wilk**, lawyer and publicist, received on April 28 the Insignia of the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany bestowed upon him by the president of the Federal Republic of Germany, H.E. Professor Karl Carstens. An American citizen since 1952, Dr. Wilk was attached to the U.S. Army Psychological Warfare Branch in Italy and Austria. The honor was in appreciation of his outstanding efforts to foster German American relations. He is still a correspondent and author of "Americans from Germany."

TRAVELERS: **Gary MacEoin**, writer and lecturer, now of Tucson, is back from Nicaragua and El Salvador, reporting on Literary Campaign and reconstruction in Nicaragua and mounting violence in El Salvador for *Noticias Aliadas* of Peru, *Informations Catholiques Internationales* of Paris, *Nuovi Tempi* of Rome, and the *London Tablet*. . . **Arthur Holzman**, now retired from N.A.S.A., back from China and the Galapagos with photos of pandas, iguanas, blue-footed boobies and more. These will be used with other Antarctica photos on posters, childrens' book covers and wild-life publications.

HISTORIAN AND WAR CORRESPONDENT **Philip Whitcomb**, now of Lawrence, Kansas, is, at 87, an Olin Templin Fellow in the University of Kansas department of philosophy. He writes that he has completed a quarter of his memoirs and a collection of his despatches. Phil, a Rhodes scholar, was special correspondent for the *Christian Science Monitor* from 1948

to 1978, a contributor to many publications such as the original Harper's Weekly, to the AP during the German occupation of France, and European correspondent for Burnett Hershey's War Correspondents Association, a charter member of OPC and winner of the \$500 best business reporting award. He will preside May 16 at his 70th Oxford reunion of the Winning Class 1910, where he is a life president. In "The American Oxonian," he writes that "a journalist does not mean 'contributor to a periodical'." A real journalist "requires intense alertness, an almost instantaneous realization of what points, facts, or ideas are essential to a particular story, and a relentless determination to discover them in the most understandable form." Philip and Genevieve Whitcomb can be congratulated at A-509 Jayhawker Towers, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas 66044.

STAR: **Arlene Stern**, actress and radio/TV journalist, will appear in her own play, "Final Curtain," at Carnegie Hall on September 28. The play is based on incidents in the lives of four famous tragedy queens of the London stage.

PROFESSOR: **Theodore Berland** is serving as a visiting professor of journalism at Bowling Green State University, Ohio. He has another book out, "The Fitness Fact Book," his twelfth.

ACTOR: **Frank Blair**, former member of the OPC and famous for his appearances, before retirement, on NBC's "Today Show", is participating in a new documentary about the Arthritis Foundation.

COLUMNIST: **Millicent Brower** has had recent features in *The Star* and *The Globe*, in addition to her weekly horoscope page in *The Globe*. In March, alas,

while Millicent was attending a Doubleday press party to celebrate former member Janet Sartin's new book, "Beautiful Skin," someone stole Millicent's black mink coat from the coat room at the Doubleday private suite. Watch those minks, girls! **Grace Naismith's** only mink coat was stolen from our own Chemists' Club check room a few weeks ago when she was judging OPC magazine awards. And hide your gold, girls. Some necklace snatcher yanked **Felice Levin's** gold chain from her neck when she was walking down Fifth Avenue.

AUTHOR **John McVane**, a former OPC member, and for many years a foreign radio correspondent and NBC/TV correspondent at the UN, tells some fascinating stories of OPC members in his successful new book, "On the Air in World War II." Several Ed Murrow anecdotes appear. An untold Ernest Hemingway story is an eyebrow lifter as the "artist of the first order" suddenly behaves like a bully and a braggart in the Paris Grand Veneur garden. "Draped with pistols," the author of the great war novel "A Farewell to Arms" was brought to his feet by an old Chicago reporter who told him to "go play with your little soldier boys." Full of nostalgia of the war years from the London blitz to D-Day, the book is readable and personal, an historic picture of the life of the foreign correspondent. McVane was recently honored by the Silurians.

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With Us
at The Club**

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